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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Takayuki SAKAKIBARA, et al.

SERIAL NO.: NEW U.S. PCT APPLICATION

FILED: HEREWITH

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.: PCT/JP04/18549 INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE: December 7, 2004

FOR: HIGHLY DURABLE SPRING AND METHOD FOR COATING SAME

REQUEST FOR PRIORITY UNDER 35 U.S.C. 119 AND THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Commissioner for Patents Alexandria, Virginia 22313

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application for patent, notice is hereby given that the applicant claims as priority:

COUNTRY

APPLICATION NO

DAY/MONTH/YEAR 09 December 2003

Japan

2003-410552

Certified copies of the corresponding Convention application(s) were submitted to the International Bureau in PCT Application No. PCT/JP04/18549. Receipt of the certified copy(s) by the International Bureau in a timely manner under PCT Rule 17.1(a) has been acknowledged as evidenced by the attached PCT/IB/304.

Respectfully submitted, OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Norman F. Oblon Attorney of Record

Registration No. 24,618

Surinder Sachar

Registration No. 34,423

Customer Number 22850

(703) 413-3000 Fax No. (703) 413-2220 (OSMMN 08/03)